

Satisfying the ABAWD Work Requirement



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How to Listen In

- This webinar will be held in “listen only” mode
- There are two ways to listen
 - Via Computer
 - Via Phone



How to Ask Questions

- Use the question box to ask your question any time during the presentation.
- At the end of the presentation, we will address as many questions as possible.
- We will follow-up on questions that we cannot get to during the allotted presentation time.

Note: This webinar will be recorded. A copy of the recording and all presentation materials will be provided after the presentation.

Upcoming Webinars

Date	Time	Topic
October 10 th	10-11am	Counting Months
November 14 th	10-11am	Regaining Eligibility
December 12 th	10-11am	15 Percent Exemption Policy
January 9 th	10-11am	ABAWD Clock, Reporting and MEDS

Today's Agenda

- Review California's Implementation Timeline
- ABAWD Time Limit Review
- Satisfying the ABAWD Work Requirement
- County & Community Partner Takeaways
- Q&A

California's ABAWD Implementation Timeline

ABAWD Workgroups Meet

Jan 1, 2017

Fixed
statewide
clock
begins

Sept 2017

ABAWD
policy
handbook
released

Feb — March 2018

Time limit
waiver
request
submitted
to FNS by
CDSS

April-May 2018

Counties
receive final
time limit
waiver
confirmation

June — Aug 2018

Critical time
for screening,
notifying and
engaging
ABAWDs

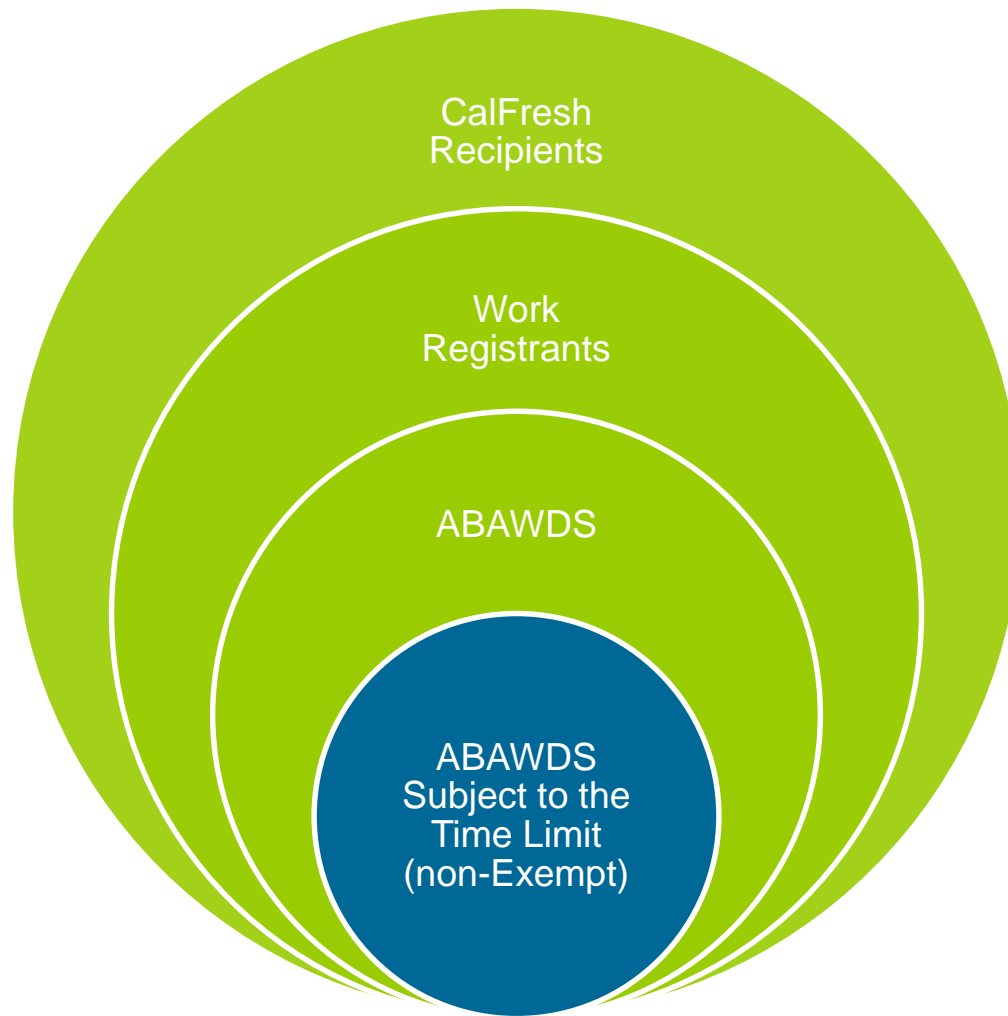
Sept 1, 2018

Statewide
ABAWD time
limit waiver
expires – some
counties
required to
implement

Participation
tracking begins

Dec 2018

First group
of ABAWDs
subject to
the time limit
potentially
discontinued



Review: ABAWD Time Limit Rule

- ABAWD eligibility limited to 3 full months in a 36-month period while not fulfilling the work requirement or otherwise exempt.

Applies to individuals that:

- Are age 18 – 49
- Have no dependents
- Do not qualify for an exemption

Requires:

- ABAWDs to satisfy the ABAWD work requirement to work or participate in a qualifying work activity for at least 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month (averaged monthly)

Satisfying the ABAWD Work Requirement

- ABAWDs subject to the time limit can satisfy the work requirement in several ways.
- Included, but not limited to:
 - Employment
 - Participating in qualifying work activities such as:
 - CalFresh Employment and Training;
 - WIOA Programs;
 - Programs under section 236 of the Trade Act of 1974; and
 - Community Service/Volunteer Work
- Workfare

Employment

- Paid Employment
- Self-Employment
- In-Kind Work - Work in exchange for goods or services
 - Examples:
 - Performing maintenance work in exchange for reduced housing costs
 - Babysitting in exchange for toiletries or other household items
 - Painting a neighbors house in exchange for mechanical repairs on a vehicle

Required Hours: 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month on average; combinable with other qualifying activities



Qualifying Work Activities

- Participating in an allowable work activity or combination of allowable work activities satisfies the work requirement.
- An allowable work activity includes one or more of the following:
 - CalFresh Employment and Training
 - Programs under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
 - Programs under section 236 of the Trade Act of 1974
 - Community Service or Volunteer Work
- Let's explore...

CalFresh Employment and Training

- Participation in CalFresh E&T allows ABAWDs to keep their CalFresh benefits
- May be a good fit for ABAWD individuals
- The E&T program provides:
 - Increased opportunities to ABAWDS
 - Access to services
- Federal funding available for CalFresh E&T.

Required Hours: 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month on average; combinable with other qualifying activities

CalFresh Employment and Training

- E&T components that satisfy the work requirement are referred to as qualifying activities
 - Components that do not satisfy the work requirement are referred to as non-qualifying activities
- Qualifying activities consist of
 - workfare,
 - work experience,
 - self-initiated workfare,
 - education, and
 - vocational training.
- Non-qualifying E&T activities consist of:
 - stand-alone job club and job search components
 - May be used for up to 9 hours



WIOA Programs

- WIOA Programs include:
 - Job Search
 - Occupational skills training
 - On-the-job training
 - Job readiness training
 - Adult education and literacy activities

Required Hours: 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month on average; combinable with other qualifying activities



Programs Under Section 236 of the Trade Act of 1974

- Applies to workers identified by the Employment Development Department (EDD) as adversely affected by U.S. trade agreements
 - Provides training to adversely affected workers through participation in programs subject to approval by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor.
 - These programs include
 - Job search;
 - Job club;
 - On-the-job training;
 - WIOA training; or
 - Remedial education programs.
- Required Hours:** 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month on average; combinable with other qualifying activities

Community Service and Volunteer Work

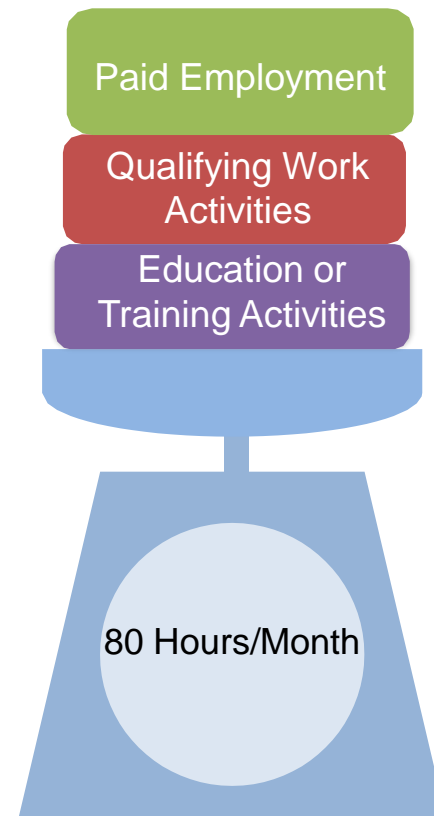
- ABAWD individuals may use community service or volunteer hours to satisfy the work requirement
 - Agencies which accept volunteering must be willing to verify hours worked
 - Verification form in progress

Required Hours: 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month on average; combinable with other qualifying activities



Combining ABAWD Work Hours

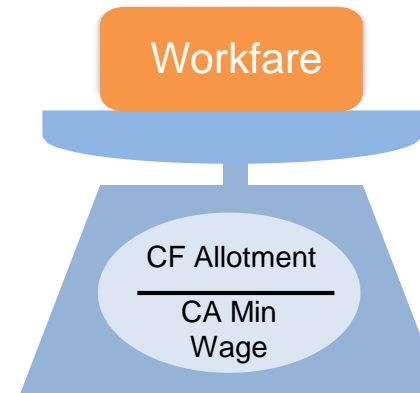
- Most work/education activities may be combined to satisfy the ABAWD work requirement
 - With the exception of workfare which may not be combined
- Allows for flexibility and opportunities for engagement



Workfare

- Various types of workfare
 - CalFresh E&T workfare
 - Self-initiated workfare
 - Comparable non-E&T workfare activities
- Required monthly hours are calculated based on the household's CalFresh allotment divided by the state or local minimum wage
 - CWDs may use the highest minimum wage available: State, County, or City
 - Round down to the nearest hour

Required Hours: CalFresh household allotment ÷ state (or local if higher) minimum wage; cannot be combined with other qualifying work activities.



Example 1: Workfare Hours Calculation

- Example:
 - Sarah's CalFresh allotment is \$150/month
 - CA minimum wage = \$10.50/hour
 - $\$150 \div \$10.50 = 14.29$ hours per month, rounded down to 14 hours per month



Example 2: Workfare Hours Calculation - City vs County Minimum Wage

- Example:
 - Joe's CalFresh allotment is \$150/month
 - Joe resides in the city of Emeryville
 - Emeryville's minimum wage = \$15.20/hour
 - Emeryville is located in Alameda county
 - Alameda county's minimum wage = \$12/hour
 - $\$150 \div \$15.20 = 9.87$ hours per month, rounded down to 9 hours per month



Example 3: Multi-person Workfare Household

- Example:
 - John and Stephanie's CalFresh allotment is \$150/month
 - CA minimum wage = \$10.50/hour
 - $\$150 \div \$10.50 = 14.29$ hours, rounded down to 14 hours per month
 - John and Stephanie together have to complete 14 hours
 - John works 8 hours and Stephanie works 6 hours



Good Cause

- May be determined for those who fail to meet the work requirement for reasons outside of their control
- Includes, but is not limited to:
 - Illness (personal or of another household member)
 - Household emergency
 - Lack of transportation
- Good cause provisions can be found at MPP 63-410.221 and 63-407.51

Verification of Satisfying the Work Requirement

- Must be obtained at initial application, SAR 7 and recertification
- Verification is mandatory, but there is flexibility on how it is obtained
 - Wage stubs
 - Collateral contacts
 - Community service verification form
 - Client statement in some cases
- If a client does not provide verification they are satisfying the work requirement they will begin to accrue countable months



Required Mid-Period Report

- ABAWDs subject to the time limit are required to report mid-period or when their hours drop below 20 hours per week or an average of 80 hours per month within 10 days
- CWDs will be required to take action on all mandatory reports which may result in:
 - Re-evaluation of exemption status
 - Good cause determination
 - Use of the 15 percent exemption
 - Application of a countable month
 - Application of the three consecutive months
 - Discontinuance

Key Discussion Points for CWDs and CBOs

- Start by Asking:
 - How will counties and CBOs identify and individually assess ABAWDs meeting the work requirement?
 - How can counties and CBOs engage ABAWDs in qualifying work activities?
 - What challenges will there be in finding workfare or volunteer sites?
 - What programs currently exist in your county that can help ABAWDs satisfy the work requirement? Are there enough spaces available?
 - How can community partnerships help ABAWDs to satisfy the work requirement?

Questions



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Resources

- CalFresh Work Registration
 - [ACIN I-01-13](#) – Policies and Procedures For CalFresh Work Registration
 - [MPP 63-407](#) – Work Registration Requirements
 - [7 CFR 273.7](#) – Work Provisions
- ABAWD Time Limit
 - [ACL 16-24](#) – CalFresh Summary of the ABAWD Time Limit
 - [MPP 63-410](#) – Work Requirements for ABAWDs
 - [7 CFR 273.24](#) – Time Limit for Able-Bodied Adults
 - [USDA FNS ABAWD Page](#)

Thank You!



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